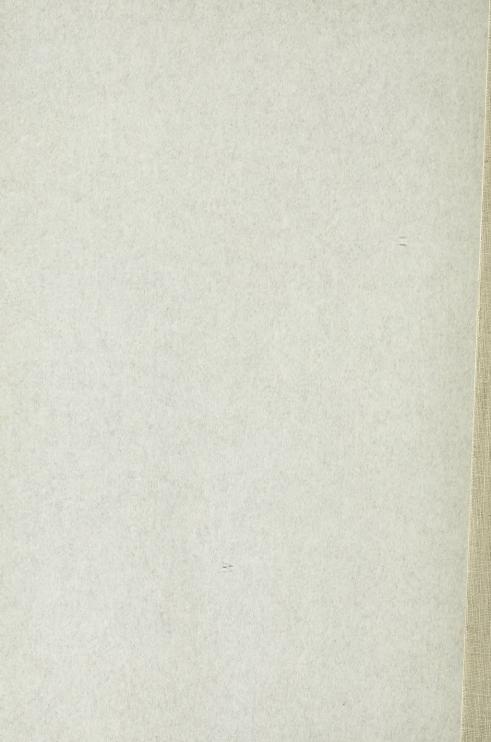
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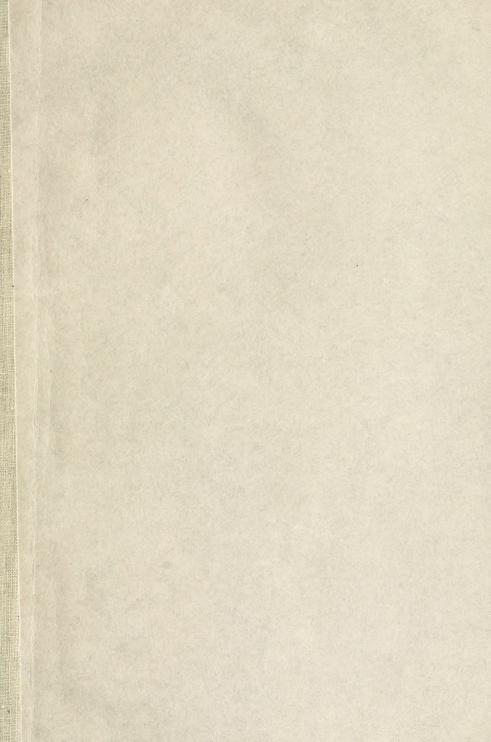
REPORT (OF THE; PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE CITY OF NEW BERN, N. C.

1920/22

By

New Bern, N. C. Board of Education





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REPORT

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE CITY

OF

NEW BERN, N. C.

1920-1921

1921---1922

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Trustees of the New Bern City Schools

T. A. Green

L. H. Cutler

Thos. Daniels

C. E. Foy

Wade Meadows

J. M. Howard

J. A. Jones

C. L. Ives

C.-S. Hollister

R. A. Nunn

A. D. Ward

*S. M. Brinson

*Deceased.

C. D. Bradham
Wm. Dunn, Jr.
Chas. R. Thomas
Jas. A. Bryan
O. H. Guion
Dr. Z. V. Parker
Dr. Raymond Pollock

Thos. D. Warren

D. M. Roberts
Mrs. Clyde Eby

Mrs. Wade Meadows

Mrs. E. K. Bishop

Board of Education New Bern City Schools

Class 1-Term expires February 1, 1923:

MR. L. H. CUTLER
MR. WADE MEADOWS
DR. Z. V. PARKER

Class 2-Term expires February 1, 1925:

MR. T. A. GREEN MR. R. A. NUNN

Class 3—Term expires February 1, 1927:

MR. THOS. D. WARREN MR. A. D. WARD

Officers:

Introduction.

To the Citizens of New Bern:

The Board of Education of the City of New Bern is charged with the responsibility of maintaining a good free public school system. The law requires the publication of statements of the receipts and expenditures of school funds.

The financial statements of 1920-'21, and of 1921-'22, are herein contained.

The annual reports of our superintendent contain much valuation information regarding the school system, and we have included them in this biennial report.

We include, also, a report of the building fund used in the construction of the new school buildings in Riverside and Ghent.

Respectfully,

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW BERN.

T. A. GREEN, Chairman.

C. WHIT GASKINS, Secty & Treas.

Annual Report of Superintendent of Schools 1921-1922.

Gentlemen of the Board:

The outstanding features of the school report for the year 1921-'22 are as follows:

- 1. We have lived within our resources. Not a dollar has been borrowed this year by this Board. We have paid the interest and sinking fund of \$1900 on the bond issue of 1914. We had paid \$960 on our Building and Loan stock. Interest on borrowed money, amounting to \$1,393.44 has been paid, and we have spent for repairs on our Teacherage \$497.64. We have paid all salaries to date.
- 2. We have financed our schools on a 25 cent tax rate, the lowest rate levied by any of the larger towns in our State.
- 3. The Aldermen have been authorized to sell \$30,000.00 worth of school bonds to relieve the schools of the floating debt which has accumulated during the past ten years.
- 4. We have nearing completion two new school buildings in which the city can justly take pride, and they will serve their purpose for an indefinite period of time.
- 5. We have made considerable improvements at the Academy Green, and already the plans adopted last summer, but not completed for lack of time, are being pressed into execution.
- 6. We have had a continued growth in our school enrollment. The total for the year was 1373 white pupils. When the losses in population, due to the moving of the ship yards, as well as other causes, are considered, it is remarkable that any increase can be shown.
- 7. The enrollment in the high school, where the greatest losses are usually sustained, is particularly gratifying, the increase over last year being 68.
- 8. The senior class was by far the largest in the history of the school. Fifty-nine young people were given diplomas and certificates; forty-one diplomas and eighteen certificates were awarded on June 9th.
- 9. There are more students from New Bern attending college now than formerly went in a decade. There were fifty-five stu-

dents in college from our town this past year. A most gratifying feature is that a large per cent of them will stay till they graduate.

- 10. We have tested our work in the school system. There are several standard tests by which teachers and school officials can measure the results being obtained with accuracy. Just as distance is measured by the yarkstick or the rod, so the results of a school can be measured. We have used two and three standard systems of measurement, and we are prepared to prove to the tax-payers and to the community that our work is up to the standard of American schools, and that full value has been given.
- 11. Not many people realize the significance of school measurements. Heretofore the efficiency of a school system has been judged by the personal popularity of the teachers, the political skill of the officers, the degree of favor in which certain cliques, rings, "leaders," etc., chose to hold the school system. But due to scientific tests, the day of scientific measurements and evaluations is here to stay. By these tests the school board and the citizens can test to a fine point the efficiency of the schools.
- 12. Interested citizens have organized a Community Y. M. C. A. and have employed a full-time secretary. Most of the work of the Y. M. C. A. is done among the boys of the schools. We have an especially strong secretary, and the work he has accomplished among the boys, and in the community generally, is most remarkable.

Few people in New Bern realized the acute need of a Y. M. C. A. in our town. The schools find it very difficult to exercise much control over young people of high school age during out-of-school hours. And so do the churches and Sunday Schools. Social and recreational as well as moral and religious leadership was imperative, and the Y. M. C. A. has filled that need. The better element of the high school has been placed in the lead. Ambition, and pride in clean sports, and in uprightness in living, have received a powerful stimulus from the Y. M. C. A. It has already accomplished wonderful results for the community, and its future is full of the highest promises. The way to build a loyal, upright, Christian citizenship is to begin with the young folks, and this is what the Y. M. C. A. does.

13. The teacherage has had another successful year. When we opened the teacherage two years ago it did not have a penny to buy anything with. Some of us had to arrange a loan. I am glad to report that the teacherage has been able to re-pay the

loan, pay all operating expenses of every kind, and it has paid the interest on the indebtedness in the purchase price of the teacherage, which amounts to \$1800 per year. In addition, the teacherage has purchased and paid for about \$3,000 worth of furniture and furnishings, plumbing supplies and repairs to the heating plant. It should be borne fully in mind that the teacherage is a self-supporting adjunct of the school system.

So much for the outstanding features enumerated above.

By way of explanation of item 1, it should be said that taxes have come in too slowly to keep the schools going. We asked the city aldermen and the county commissioners to borrow money for us "in anticipation of taxes," as provided by law. The city borrowed \$15,000, with the understanding that every dollar of city school tax must be set aside as a sinking fund for this debt. I am glad to report that over half enough has been collected to pay this loan. *

The same understanding prevails relative to the loan of \$5,000 by the county commissioners. There is ample taxes due us by the county to insure the payment of this money. The county treasurer, by law, must set aside 4-11 of all general county school tax to the credit of the New Bern City Schools. He has instructions to credit our loan with all of our part of the general school tax until the principal and interest are paid.

Heretofore all loans have been made by and in the name of the school board. This year the loans have been made by the city and county commissioners. This year's plan is much sounder and better. It enables us to finance the schools, and automatically creates a means of paying off loans. Under the old plan, practically all the taxes that should have gone toward repaying the loans have been used in paying for improvements and getting the schools in readiness for the opening the following September. Under the new plan loans can be repaid. Whatever repairs and changes are made during vacation will have to be paid for in some other way. The new plan is by far the better plan of financing the schools.

In the white school the average daily attendance was 1164.86, against 1145 in 1920-'21. The enrollment in the grades was 1043; in the high school 330.

We employed 15 teachers for the high school and 28 for the elementary school. One part-time teacher was employed to help

^{*}Both loans were re-paid by August 15, 1922.

with the music at \$40 per month. Two teachers were paid \$35.00 each month for special teaching. Of the 43 regular teachers, only two were men.

Four full-time janitors were employed continuously during the year, and two part-time janitors. 53 class rooms, 12 toilets and 12 halls have been cleaned three times per week. In addition, the janitors have fired the furnace and kept 22 heaters going. Also, they have done much repair work and have hauled practically all the wood and coal used by the schools and the teacherage. They have worked faithfully, and I believe they have earned their wages.

One additional janitor will be needed next year to help care for the Ghent and Riverside schools.

Next year I expect 1400 white pupils in the schools, 350 of whom will be in the high school.

At Ghent and Riverside we ask you to maintain divisions of each of the first five grades. At the Academy Green all of the Griffin Building and all of the first floor of the Central Building, also the wooden building on Johnson street, will be needed for the high school.

I ask for one additional elementary white teacher. With this one addition, the teaching staff will be sufficiently large.

I ask your attention to the following items:

THE ACADEMY GREEN

- 1. Fire escapes. These are imperatively needed.
- 2. More and better drinking fountains.
- 3. A new boiler for the heating plant.
- 4. Paint on the wood work. It is ruining for lack of paint.
- 5. Repairs to the roofs, also paint. The Central and Griffin buildings leak badly.
 - 6. Some provision for disposing of surface water on the yard.
- 7. A revised set of rules and regulations governing teachers and the schools generally.

Each year the compulsory attendance law is somewhat more effective. But among the white people there is still a deplorable lack of compliance. Among the less intelligent classes of our

people, almost any occurrence, or condition of the weather, is sufficient excuse to keep children out of school. Among the colored people no attention is paid to the law.

The salary scale is considerably lower than the scales of the other towns in this State and I can not get many North Carolina teachers. The only source of supply I could find this year was the Normal Schools of Georgia. Most of these girls were young and inexperienced, but the Georgia Normal girls are good, and the girls we employed were well trained, and they did good work.

The Georgia Normals do not train high school teachers, and I had the greatest difficulty in securing teachers for the vacancies in the high school.

For your information, I have written to all the larger towns in this part of the State to know if they expect to reduce salaries next year. The reply in every case has been "No." I cannot too strongly urge upon you the necessity of good teachers. We ran a great risk last year, and I should not be willing to say that all of our teachers were good, for they were not. If any reduction is to be made in expenses, it should not come from a reduction of the salary scale. To reduce the already low scale means a degree of inefficiency that will ruin the school system. We cannot get good teachers at lower salaries than other towns pay any more than we can buy building supplies below the market prices.

The year at the colored school was up to the usual quality of work. The outstanding feature was the rapid growth and interest in the department of home economics. One hundred girls took the course in sewing and cooking. The teacher, Mrs. Carrie Roach Fisher, deserves special commendation for her efforts, and for the excellent results she obtained.

Principal Barber's report will supply such information as you may wish regarding the colored schools.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL OF COLORED SCHOOLS, 1921-'22.

Gentlemen:

Herewith I beg to submit a report of the work done at the West Street Graded School for the session 1921-1922.

usual. For the year our attendance averaged 72 daily, more than the previous year.

In the Primary and Elementary Grades, we have fifteen teachers. In the high school, we have two teachers.

When school opens in September we will have fifteen rooms. Unless more room is provided, we shall be compelled to place two grades in the chapel. With this plan, we cannot do effective work.

On account of the many children in the primary grades, we were compelled to have half day sessions in four rooms. At the same time those teachers were compelled to accept more children than should be given one person.

Our Domestic Science department has had the most successful year in its existence. In this department we accepted girls from the sixth through the eighth grades. This has been rather heavy on one teacher. With an assistant in this department the work will go on with better results.

Our girls were taught to plan and prepare a meal according to food regulations. Dinners were served to most of the parents. Each girl gave at least 25c to help meet expenses. Our classes in sewing were successful. Most of the larger girls made several dresses that showed real effort on their part. Many of the parents expressed themselves as feeling that this department was of great value.

We appreciate your help, also that of Dr. Dillard, and Prof. Newbold, and trust that your aid may continue.

According to present plans we will have seventeen grade teachers and two in the Domestic Science Department.

Our promotions were some better than has been. This is due to hard work of the teachers.

We made our chapel stage three feet wider, added foot-lights and new curtains for the stage. This cost \$105.00.

FINANCIAL REPORT. Receipts.

The state of the s	
Balance brought forward	\$124.75
Commencement plays	160.25
Articles sold	
Tuition	
Rent of chapel	18.64
Disbursements.	\$336.72
Repairs to stage	\$105.00
Commencement expenses and material for school	101.01
Balance on hand	130.72
	\$336.72

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. BARBER, Principal.

Annual Report of Superintendent of Schools 1920-1921.

Gentlemen of the Board:

Section II of the amendment to the school charter reads as follows:

"It shall be the duty of the Board of Education to provide ample modern school facilities for the white and colored schools of the City of New Bern. Said Board shall study carefully the school needs of the City, and shall also make careful comparison with the schools of other towns and cities of the State. It may employ experts to make surveys, investigations, reports, etc. It shall be its duty to maintain a modern well equipped school system."

To carry out this section, it is necessary first to examine the census. Mr. R. J. Disosway took the census last summer. He reported 1469 white pupils in our school district. He reported 2463 colored pupils, the total being 3932.

During the past year 1361 white pupils enrolled in the schools. Sixty-two of these came from outside the district and paid tuition. Approximately sixty were brought in on the county's school truck, for whom the county paid tuition. Deducting the 122 who came from outside the New Bern district, it appears that 1239 of the 1469 white persons of school age in New Bern enrolled in school, and 230 did not enroll. Of the 230 not enrolled probably 130 have graduated, or are married, or are otherwise not to be expected to attend school. But what of the other 100? It would seem that there are still persons not in school who should be here, in spite of the law, and the intense campaign we have for years waged to get the children in school.

Our enrollment this year was 105 more than it was last year. The average attendance this year was 1145, or an increase of 195 per day over last year. Due to influenza, last year was a bad year for school. This year was an unusually good one; over 94% of the pupils on the rolls for any given month were present each day, April excepted. This exception is due to an epidemic of measles.

In the colored schools but few outsiders are enrolled. Of the 2463 colored pupils in the district, Prof. Barber reports an enrollment of 1089. Not quite half of the colored school population enrolled. The average attendance was 692. Needless to say

that there is much indifference to schools among our colored people.

The compulsory attendance law is not as effective as it should be in compelling indifferent parents to send their children to school. Some of the defects are in the law itself.

In the white schools there were employed 41 teachers. In the colored, 17 teachers. The Red Cross Society, aided by the Anti-Tuberculosis Society, and by contributions, has been able to keep on duty at both schools a nurse about half of each day.

The corps of janitors has consisted of one white man and two colored men for the white schools, and one man and an assistant for two hours daily, at the colored school. It should be said for these men that they have done much repair work all through the year, and they have saved you several hundred dollars of expense in bills for plumbing, wiring, roof-painting, steam and water pipe fitting, hauling fuel, hauling dirt on the yard, etc.

Two important forward steps were taken last year. First, the opening of a three-room school at Riverside. Second, the opening of the teacherage. 115 pupils were enrolled at Riverside. This, our first suburban school, proved entirely satisfactory to the patrons.

The teacherage was in charge of Mrs. W. C. Winslow. Twenty-eight teachers were boarded in it at a cost of \$8.50 and \$9.00 per week. The experiment proved a complete success, and our plan of management is being studied by the school officials in several of the towns in this part of the State.

Mrs. Winslow's report to you will show that much repair work, and many articles for the kitchen, dining room and living rooms, had to be purchased. Also much repair work had to be done. The expense was great. However, we feel highly pleased to report that we have been able to pay off all these bills. No school funds have been used in the maintenance of the teacherage.

The best test of high school instruction of which I know is the records of the large number of students who have gone to college from our city in recent years. In every instance in which a student made fair grades in the high school here, he has made creditable marks in college. We have a large delegation at the University, and at the North Carolina College for Women. The other colleges are receiving considerable patronage. Some of our students have gone to West Point Military Academy, to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and to many other schools scattered in all parts of the country. Their record is a good one, and the city should take pride in it.

In this connection, I should like to remind you that our percentage of graduates is much higher than 10%,—the number

usually expected of any first grade. The class of 1921 numbered over 40% of its first grade enrollment. Next year's class will number 60% of its enrollment in the first grade.

Our record in athletics this year was one that aroused the admiration of the whole city. Much good has come from our efforts in training athletic teams.

In 1919-'20 our nurse was Miss Lily Groves. She gave all the pupils in the white school a physical examination, as required by law. The directions of the State Board of Health were followed. This year the pupils were re-examined by Miss Higgs, the nurse, and the record cards begun by Miss Groves further filled out. We now have a card-index record of all the pupils. It contains a statement of their physical defects, treatments, etc. Several hundred children have received treatment as a result of the activities of the nurses. The new county health department gives promise of greatly increased assistance in carrying on the health work of the schools. Just before school closed, several hundred children in the white and colored schools were vaccinated against typhoid fever.

Before closing this part of my report, I wish to call your attention to the receipts of our plays this year. We have made clear of expenses \$328.16 from the various entertainments for which we have charged admission. This money has all been spent on school projects, such as the scholarship cup, which took the place of medals, on books, maps, the Annual, and we have paid to Mrs. Winslow to be applied to Teacherage bills \$200.00. We have in the bank a balance of \$82.14.

I would like, also, to call your attention to the Annual, the work of the class of 1921. It is the best high school annual I have seen.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. Reverting to Section 2 of the Amendment of our school charter, if we are to maintain good public schools for the 1450 white, and for the 1100 colored pupils who are to be our care and responsibility next year, some things must be done this summer.

The most pressing need is more room in the white schools. We have class rooms as follows:

Riverside	3
Primary Building	9
Central Building	8
Old Building	4
Griffin Building	8
Annex	2
	_
Total	34

The high school will require all of the Griffin Building, also the Annex. The grades will require all of the remaining rooms, and three others. It is an imperative necessity to provide three additional class rooms before school opens in September.

- 2. The colored people are in very urgent need of at least one additional class room.
- 3. The toilets should by all means be enlarged, renovated and improved. They are totally inadequate.
 - 4. The metal roofs should be painted and the leaks repaired.
- 5. The wood-work on all the buildings at the Academy Green is sadly in need of paint. The Academy Green is the most prominent part of New Bern, and our sense of civic welfare urges paint and repairs.
- 6. Fire escapes at both white and colored schools are urgent necessities.
- 7. Arrangements for shower baths and dressing rooms for all who take part in athletics.
- 8. A general overhauling of the heating plant. It is old, and it needs attention.
 - 9. Better and more sanitary drinking fountains.
- 10. Repairs to the heating apparatus at the teacherage. Also repairs to the floors and the plastering.

Respectfully submitted,
H. B. SMITH,
Superintendent of Schools.

Financial Statement New Bern City Schools 1921-1922

RECEIPTS.

Balance June 1, 1921Overdraft \$ 220.45				
County—taxes 37,193.55				
City—taxes 39,183.60				
County building fund 535.30				
Bonds 7,745.00				
Tuition 1,729.65				
Section of the second section of				
\$86,166.65				
DISBURSEMENTS				
White teachers' salaries\$50.069.07				

White teachers' salaries\$	
Colored teachers' salaries	17,527.30
School nurse	
Building and sites	535.30

Repairs, white and colored	1,340.01
Furniture and apparatus, white and colored	629.84
Water, lights, fuel and janitors	4,968.01
Supplies, white and colored	863.20
Transportation of pupils	17.50
Treasurer	450.00
Expenses superintendent	48.02
Census	116.07
Office Assistance	560.00
Building and Loan payments	960.00
Teacherage	497.64
Postage and telegraph	41.71
Telephone service	118.36
Truck	215.88
Miscellaneous (printing, express, etc.)	329.57
Borrowed money repaid	3,000.00
Interest on borrowed money	1,393.44
Interest on bonds and transferred to sinking fund	1,900.00
1920-'21 outstanding checks	970.12
Total expenditures for all purposes\$	86,881.04
Total receipts\$86,166.65	
Total disbursements 86,881.04	
Overdraft July 1, 1922\$ 714.39	

Financial Statement New Bern City Schools 1920-1921

RECEIPTS.

State Treasurer	19,667.87
County	17,854.32
City of New Bern	26,761.86
Tuition—1919-'20, \$325.07; 1920-'21, \$1,575.70	1,900.77
Rebate from water and light	200.00

\$66,384.82

SUMMARY NO. 1.

Budget Operating	expenses	(1920-	21)	 	\$80 80),576.82),336.65
Balance				 		240.17

SUMMARY No. 2.

Operating expenses \$80,336.65 Actual receipts 66,384.82
Deficit\$13,951.83
This deficit was cared for by loans from the various banks. When the taxes for 1920-'21 are turned in the amount will be sufficient to cover the above deficit.

DISBURSEMENTS

Teachers, white and colored	65,716.20
Note: The budget was exceeded because of larger enrollments than we anticipated and a part-time teacher for the grades and a part-time teacher for the high school had to be employed.	
Water, fuel and janitors	6,250.89
Water and lights\$ 479.77 Janitors 3,230.86 Fuel and gas 2,415.26	
Supplies	1,459.75
Furniture and apparatus	725.56
Interest on Bonds and Sinking Fund	1,400.00
Building and repairs	1,494.08
Treasurer's salary	300.00
maintenance)	1,419.20
Office Clerk	581.25
Miscellaneous	731.26
Telephone\$111.00	
Transportation 132.25 Commencement speaker 25.00	
P. O. Box rent 4.00	
Express and freight 60.47	
Postage	
Telegrams 28.00	
Printing 60.00	
All others 167.00	
Insurance	214.29
Census	44.07
	11.01
The same of the sa	

Total operating expenses\$80,336.65

Statement

Of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Book Fund of The New Bern Graded Schools, July 1st, 1921 To June 30, 1922.

RECEIPTS.

Collection of book fees	\$4,281.71
Collection of fines and damages	27.63
Sale of books, stationery, etc	366.35
Typewriting fees	144.25
1920 Loan to Teacherage repaid	214.56
Loans from Peoples Bank	1,100.00
Balance on hand July 1st, 1921	
Balance on hand July 1st, 1021	
	\$6,188.92
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Books, pencils, tablets, etc	\$4,276.73
Paid out for laboratory supplies	8.30
Paid out for freight, express, etc	168.24
Part salary book clerk	484.75
Loans repaid Peoples Bank	600.00
Printing and office equipment	
Rent on typewriters	48.67
Loan to Play Fund	257.68
Loan to Tray Fund	
	\$5,998.35
Total amount received	\$6,188.92
Total amount paid out	5,998.35
Total amount para out	
Balance on hand July 1st, 1922	
Balance on nand July 18t, 1922	

The Building Fund

Mr. T. A. Green, Chairman of the School Board, has acted as treasurer of the Building Fund used in the erection of the school buildings at Ghent and Riverside. This fund was created by an issue of \$150,000.00 worth of bonds, voted on May 8, 1920. The full amount has not yet been turned over to the school board by the Board of Aldermen, as Mr. Green's statement shows.

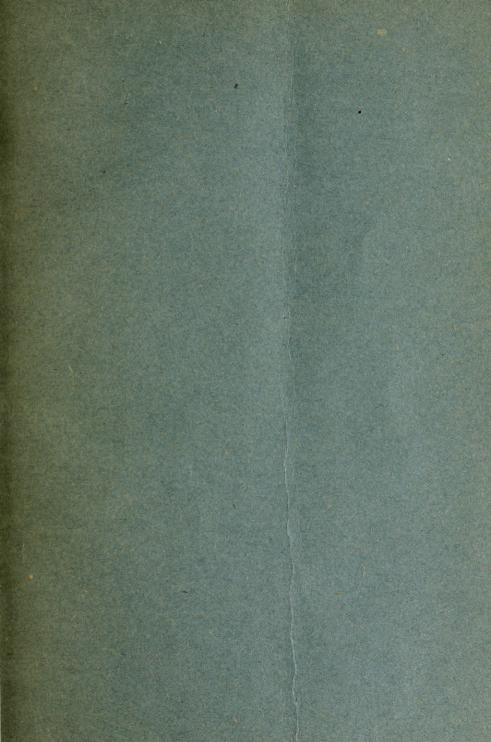
STATEMENT OF T. A. GREEN, CHAIRMAN

In Account With the Board of Education of the City of New Bern, N. C.

1922—Nov. 4th:	
To Cash received by City\$:	110,000,00
To Cash received of County	535.30
To Cash received of Brock & Daniels, Bond Account.	188.12
To Cash received of Citizens Sygs. Bk. & T. Co., Int	110.00
To Cash received of Citizens Sygs. Dr. & 1. Co., Inc	110.00
3:	110,833.42
	,,
By Cash paid Brock & Daniels, Ghent Bldg\$	36,072.15
" Stallings Bros., extra work	118.20
" Brock & Daniels, Riverside Bldg	35,771.97
" Stallings Bros., extra work	67.70
" Sanitary Improvements on Academy	
Green	6,162.03
" Brock & Daniels, Bond Account	1,188.12
" Sites for Buildings	8,336.40
" Stallings Bros., heating and sanitation.	10,838.00
" Perkins, new wood building at Green	535.30
" J. F. Grause & L. N. Boney, architects	3,116.87
" Fire Insurance Building Risk, etc	363.28
Wington Floatnic Wining ats	
"Kinston Electric Wiring, etc	1,267.34
"West. St. Graded School improvements.	2,334.58
School lurniture, etc	2,947.21
school at Ghent, water drainage, etc	88.45
School at Riverside, lence, etc	22.43
By Cash Balance in Banks	1,603.39
(110,833.42
New Bern Banking & Trust Co\$537.45	5
Peoples Bank 547.60	3
National Bank 518.28	
	-
\$1,603.3	9

Respectfully submitted, T. A. GREEN, Chairman.

NOTE: The entire proceeds of the bond issue have not yet been turned over to the schools by the Aldermen. A sufficient amount is being reserved for the erection of a school building for the colored people.



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1920/22

New Bern (N.C.). Board of Education.
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New Bern, N. C. Board of Education

Report [of the] public schools of the city of New Bern, N. C.

